Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 30, 1978 SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USNATO IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

UNCLAS LONDON 10393

DEPT PLEASE PASS ALL NATO CAPITALS

E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CCMS, NATO

SUBJECT: CCMS: TRANSPORTATION PILOT STUDY PROPOSALS

REF: STATE 134939

1. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, EMBASSY CONTACTED P.E. PICK-ERING OF THE U.K. DEPT. OF TRANSPORT ON MAY 31 CON-CERNING NEW PARAGRAPH THAT HAD BEEN ADDED TO RURAL TRANSPORTATION PILOT STUDY BY U.S. U.K. IS UNHAPPY WITH U.S. EDITION AND HAS PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE.

2. TEXT OF PICKERING'S LETTER OF JUNE 20 FOLLOWS:

"I AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO MAKE THE PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSALS RATHER MORE EXPLICIT, BUT I UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 172510

WOULD BE UNHAPPY ABOUT INCLUDING WORDS WHICH IMPLIED THAT THERE WOULD INEVITABLY BE A SECOND STAGE TO THE PROJECT. FURTHER, IT WAS SUGGESTED AT THE MEETING THAT THE TEMPTATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A POLICY NATURE SHOULD BE RESISTED, SINCE THE LOCUS OF A BODY SUCH AT NATO/CCMS, IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO CENTRAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT WAS QUESTIONABLE, AND THE IMPLIED

ARROGANCE OF SUCH AN ACTIVITY WOULD DIMINISH THE POSITIVE VALUE OF WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED ELSEWHERE. AS I RECOLLECT IT, NO-ONE AT THE MEETING WISHED TO COMMIT HIS GOVERNMENT TO ANYTHING BEYOND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT STATES WOULD BE ABLE TO WITHDRAW IF THEY DID NOT THINK CONTINUING IN THE PROJECT WOULD BE VALUABLE TO THEM. THE FIRST STAGE OF THE STUDY COULD AFTER ALL STAND BY ITSELF, AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR RURAL TRANSPORT POLICY IN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES COULD MAKE USE OF THE INFORMATION GATHERED IN THE STUDY BY REFERRING IT TO THEIR OWN DOMESTIC CONDITIONS AND DRAWING THEIR OWN INFERENCES FROM IT, WITHOUT NECESSARILY HAVING A COLLECTIVE REPORT INCLUDING INFERENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS. YOUR NEW PARAGRAPH COULD PERHAPS THEREFORE READ:

"THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY IS TO PROMPT THE EXPERTS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ABOUT THE METHODS BEING EMPLOYED OR DEVELOPED IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND IN DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS TO PROVIDE PASSENGER SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS OTHER THAN THROUGH CONVENTIONAL TRANSPORT SERVICES. THIS EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT DIFFERENT WAYS OF DEALING WITH THIS PROBLEM WOULD ENABLE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES TO DRAW INFERENCES ON THE POTENTIAL VALUE IN THEIR AREAS OF CERTAIN METHODS OR OF CERTAIN FEATURES OF SUCH METHODS."

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PAGE 03 STATE 172510

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